

(b) if so, the details, such as terms and conditions etc. thereof; and

(c) in what manner it is proposed to ensure that back door entry of investment by mafia groups settled abroad does not take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) The present policy permits upto 74% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in advertisement and upto 100% FDI in film industry. Government constantly reviews the role of foreign investment with the objective of further refining it and enhancing India's attractiveness as an investment destination and also to supplement the domestic investment as per sector specific requirements. Any further liberalisation in the sector specific FDI policy is formulated in consultation with and based on the recommendation of the concerned administrative ministries.

#### **FDI in retail trading**

2565. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:

SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to allow Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in retail trading;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have received any such proposal from foreign companies; and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Proposals for FDI are received from various foreign/NRI companies from time to time and are decided in accordance with the policy on the subject.

#### **Pork processing project at Medzifema, Nagaland**

2566. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:

SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

[20 March, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether it is a fact that pork processing project is being established at Medzifema, Nagaland;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the population of pork is decreasing in the country;

(c) if so, what are the reasons to permit the establishment, financing and encouraging such big projects; and

(d) what steps are taken to stop such cruel slaughtering?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. As per Animal Husbandry Statistics (1999) the pig population is increasing.

(c) Such a project has been assisted in order to meet the growing demand for hygienic and better quality pork.

(d) The pork project at Medzifema uses stunning before actual slaughtering which is a more scientific process.

#### **Pruning of negative list of imports**

2567. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to protect the local industries in the new Import-Export Policy being formulated by Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to reduce the number of items from the negative list of imports;

(c) if so, whether it will open the floodgates for any importer in the country to import thus affecting the local units;

(d) whether it will result in free outflow of foreign exchange from the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) to (e) India has been following a continuous policy of removal of restrictions on imports since 1991. Tariff